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Secretary Caballero Proclaims April "Fair Housing Month"

This year marks the 52nd anniversary of California's Fair Employment and Housing Act, which brought together the 1959 Fair Employment Practices Act and the 1963 Rumford Fair Housing Act to protect Californians from housing and employment discrimination. We also celebrate the 43rd anniversary of the Rumford Act's federal counterpart.

Today, California's fair housing laws protect the right of all Californians to live where they want, free from discrimination and harassment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, marital status, national origin, ancestry, disability, familial status, sexual orientation or source of income.

In spite of state and federal legislation, discrimination in housing persists, necessitating vigorous enforcement of California's fair housing laws by the Department of Fair Employment and Housing and fair housing advocates throughout the state.

During the month of April, both public and private organizations will host events nationwide to promote equitable housing practices and educate the public about fair housing laws.

It is my honor to declare April 2011 as "Fair Housing Month" in California and urge all Californians to participate in activities and events commemorating the Golden State's commitment to fair housing.

Anna M. Caballero

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Secretary